



CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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Wellesley's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals

Wellesley's Annual Town Meeting 2021 adopted town-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals. These goals follow on previous targets approved in 2009 and revised in 2014. The new goals call for achieving net-zero GHG emissions by 2050, and for reducing emissions 50% below a 2007 baseline by 2030 and 75% below this baseline by 2040.

These science-based targets are similar to those set by many of Wellesley's peer communities and are in line with recommendations from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has also committed to accomplishing net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 with interim goals. Governor Baker signed "[An Act creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts climate policy](#)" into law on March 26, 2021.

The Climate Action Committee is developing a town-wide Climate Action Plan. The Plan will provide a roadmap for reaching climate goals. To assist in Wellesley's planning efforts, Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc. (KLA), a local firm focused on climate action planning and solutions, is working with the CAC on a ten-month effort to identify, evaluate, and prioritize climate strategies for Wellesley.

KLA has two decades of municipal climate action and sustainability planning experience. In the past three years, KLA supported development of 16 climate action plans for local governments across the country, including eight for Massachusetts communities. The firm's ability to facilitate a data-driven and practical approach contributed to the firm's selection.